



NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF TECHNICAL AGRICULTURE

Feb. 20, 2021
By NCTA News

Livestock team doubled up at weekend contests

CURTIS, Neb. – Hard work keeps some of the freezing temperatures at bay for livestock evaluation students at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.

“Some low temperatures and snow did not deter this team,” said Coach Doug Smith. “Early mornings and miles to travel is what the team experienced last weekend.”

The freshmen and sophomore students on the NCTA Livestock Judging Team traveled to Valentine on Friday, Feb. 12 for the Heart City Bull Bash Judging Contest.

Then, they went on to Kearney Friday evening to compete Saturday at the Nebraska Cattlemen’s Classic held at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds.

The sophomore team of placed 12th at the Heart City Bull Bash and 8th at the Cattlemen’s Classic.

Avery Bermel of Curtis was 19th in placings, closely followed by Jose de la Cruz of Columbus in 20th. Other team members are Lauren Nichols, Scottsbluff, and Melody MacDonald of Fullerton.

For the freshmen team, they were 14th at the Heart City Bull Bash and 12th at the Cattlemen’s Classic.

Individual placings were: Clayton Runkle of Elkhart, Kansas, 16th and 13th in Feedlot Cattle at the Classic; Meghan Spahr of Wayne, 18th, and Lexi Rice of Mullen, 20th. Other team members are Audrey Brawner, Wood Lake; Cassidy Frey, Superior; and Olivia Nyberg, Stromsburg. The freshmen team’s next contest will be April 15-16th in Hutchinson, Kansas.

Assistant coach Camden Wilke is a third-year Aggie student from Columbus and travels with the Aggies.

Smith said the team continues to practice on Thursday mornings and throughout the week as class time allows.

Part of the University of Nebraska system, the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture is a two-year institution with a statewide mission of preparing students for successful careers in agriculture, veterinary technology and related industries. NCTA is known for its affordable tuition, high job-placement rate for its graduates, and for the success of student teams in competitive activities including crops judging, ranch horse events, livestock judging, shotgun sports, stock dog trials, and intercollegiate rodeo. The college is consistently ranked as one of the best two-year schools in the nation.

#

Online article: <https://go.unl.edu/nmec>



Sophomore livestock judging students at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis recently competed in two weekend contests at Valentine and Kearney. Aggie students are, from left, Avery Bermel, Jose De la Cruz, Lauren Nichols and Melody MacDonald. (Smith / NCTA Photo)